

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 009293
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 009293

FOL RPT ADDIS ABABA 00160 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ASMARA
CASABLANCA JOHANNESBURG ALGIERS CAIRO RABAT TRIPOLI
TUNIS GENEVA 12 JAN QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 00160

PASS LABOR FOR SEGALL, HOROWITZ, LINSERMAYER AND GOLDBERG (BLS)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB,ILO,ET

SUBJECT:ILO--NEXT INTERNTAIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE PRESIDENT AND
FUTURE ILO DIRECTOR-GENERAL

REF: A. STATE 289015, B. GENEVA 8799

1. AS SUGGESTED REFTEL A EMBOFF INQUIRED OF SOURCES AT ILO RE-
GIONAL OFFICE FOR AFRICA INCLUDING ILO AFRICA DIRECTOR PIERRE
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ADOSSAMA (TOGOLESE), WHO MIGHT BE LIKELY AFRICAN CANDIDATE
FOR NEXT ILC PRESIDENT. ALTHOUGH TWO SOURCES CONTACTED FELT
THERE MIGHT BE SOME PRESSURE TO ACCEPT NORTH AFRICAN CANDIDATE
BECAUSE SECOND SESSION OF OAU LABOR COMMISSION WOULD BE HELD
IN TRIPOLI APRIL 25-30, THEY THOUGHT PRESSURES COULD BE OVERCOME
AND MOST LIKELY ANGLOPHONE CANDIDATE WOULD BE SELECTED.

2. DISCUSSING POSSIBLE CANDIDATES LISTED REFTEL A ADOSSAMA THOUGHT NYAMWEYA OF KENYA, AMADOU LY OF SENEGAL, AND KOKU OF NIGERIAL, NOT LIKELY TO BE SELECTED AS AFRICAN CANDIDATE FOR ILC PRESIDENCY. REVIEWING CHANCES OF BANDA OF ZAMBIA, AMEDUME OF GHANA, AND PEAL OF LIBERIA, ADOSSAMA THOUGHT EITHER AMEDUME OR BANDA MOST LIKELY TO GAIN AFRICAN MONINATION. IN SUPPORT OF AMEDUNE, ADOSSAMA CITED HIS CHAIRMANSHIP SECOND COMMITTEE AT WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE WHICH ADOSSAMA FELT WAS EXTREMELY WELL-RECEIVED BY AFRICAN PARTICIPANTS AND COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON AMEDUME'S ABILITY TO RUN SMOOTH AND WELL-ORGANIZED MEETINGS. IN SUPPORT OF BANDA, ADOSSAMA NOTED HIS INTELLIGENCE AND EXPERIENCE IN LABOR MATTERS. BANDA WAS ALSO CLASSMATE OF SECOND ILO SOURCE WHO CONFIRMED ADOSSAMA'S OPINIONS.

3. BOTH MEN DISCOUNTED ANY POSSIBILITY GABONESE MINISTER MIGHT BE AFRICAN CANDIDATE BECAUSE OF HIS RELATIVE INEXPERIENCE. IN ANY CASE THEY BELIEVED THERE LITTLE OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO INFLUENCE SELECTION OF AFRICAN ILC CANDIDATE. THEY EXPLAINED AFRICAN CANDIDATE WOULD BE SELECTED AT APRIL 25-30 OAU MEETING IN TRIPOLI AND DID NOT SEE HOW US COULD BE FACTOR.

4. HOWEVER, BOTH EXPRESSED MARKED INTEREST IN SELECTION OF NEXT ILO DIRECTOR-GENERAL, AS PRESENT ILO DIRECTOR-GENERAL BLANCHARD'S TERM EXPIRES MARCH, 1978. SECOND SOURCE SAID IT APPEARED DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL BALIL (SWEDE) WAS BEGINNING CAMPAIGN ON OWN BEHALF. WHEN ASKED WHAT WERE INDICATIONS HE REPLIED BALIL WOULD BE VISITING AFRICAN ILO OFFICE MARCH 22. AS PERSONAL NOTE SOURCE ADDED HE HOPED US WOULD CONFIDENTIAL

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HAVE STRONG CANDIDATE FOR ILO DIRECTOR-GENERALSHIP. HE SAID ILO NEEDED STRONG DG WHO COULD TURN ORGANIZATION AWAY FROM POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS AND TOWARD TECHNICAL WORK WHICH ILO ORIGINALLY DESIGNED TO ACCOMPLISH.

5. ILO SOURCES DID NOT BELIEVE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE ANY CANDIDATE FOR ILC PRESIDENT. THEY BELIEVED ETHIOPIA WOULD LIKELY SUPPORT ANGLOPHONE, "SOCIALIST" CANDIDATE FOR ILC PRESIDENT. TIENKEN

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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